

# Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS  
ACTING PROSECUTOR



FRANK R. CRISOLOGO  
ACTING CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

PAUL T. APPROVATO  
ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

Justice Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
65 Park Avenue  
PO Box 756  
Flemington, NJ 08822-0756

Telephone 908-788-1129  
Fax 908-806-4618

[www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor.htm](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor.htm)

## **MEDIA RELEASE – NOVEMBER 19, 2019**

### **ELEVEN ARRESTED IN NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION**

Acting Hunterdon County Prosecutor Michael J. Williams and Acting Chief of Detectives Frank R. Crisologo announced the arrest of 11 individuals on narcotics charges.

During the month of October 2019 as part of an ongoing narcotics investigation dubbed “Operation Oxy Klean” targeting the illegal use and distribution of prescription legend drugs in Hunterdon and Warren Counties during 2017 and 2018, members of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office’s Narcotics Task Force (HCPO-NTF) charged 11 individuals - Alexandria Peterson, Davey Hendershot, Kevin Merring, Melissa Mace, Michael Bishop, Pierre Demunguia, Sarah Norris, Jessica Croucher, Carlynda Zaro, James Crouse, and Chester Williams - with third degree conspiracy to possess controlled dangerous substances and disorderly persons offenses of possessing prescription legend drugs.

These enforcement actions are the culmination of a long investigation into the use and distribution of illegally obtained Oxycodone and Percocet pain pills throughout Hunterdon and Warren Counties. Prescription monitoring documents and cellphone analysis revealed an ongoing illegal redistribution of thousands of prescription pain pills for street-level consumption. Oxycodone and Percocet, each a Schedule II controlled substance, require a valid physician’s prescription along with the medical necessity for the prescribed dosages. Several people arrested in this investigation were obtaining these prescriptions from physicians and nurse practitioners but diverting them for street-level sales.

This investigation is ongoing and is being prosecuted by the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office.

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-321-0010, going online at [www.CrimeStoppersHunterdon.com](http://www.CrimeStoppersHunterdon.com) or through the free “P3 Tips” smartphone app. All tips are anonymous and kept confidential.

For current events on the go, follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/#!/HunterdonCoPros>  
For press releases visit our website at: <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor/press.htm>  
Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HunterdonCountyProsecutor/>